

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 IO-10

EUR-12 CIEP-01 /089 W

----- 109154

R 031200Z NOV 75

FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4249

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JOHANNESBURG 1563

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, ECON, SF

SUBJECT: SAGS "VOLUNTARY" ANTI-INFLATION PROGRAM

REF: JOHANNESBURGS 1278; PRETORIA 3967

1. WE WOULD ADD FOLLOWING TO OBSERVATIONS SUBMITTED REFTELS:

2. WHILE ANTI-INFLATION MANIFESTO SPECIFICALLY EXEMPTS WORKERS WITH INCOMES BELOW "MINIMUM LIVING LEVEL" FROM RESPONSIBILITY FOR MAKING "SACRIFICES IN RESPECT OF EARNINGS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST INFLATION," IT DOES NOT MENTION TWO RELATED FACTORS: FIRST, THAT EXEMPTION DOES NOT APPLY TO 400,000 LOW-PAID BLACK GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES WHO HAVE NOT RECEIVED LONG-ANTICIPATED WAGE INCREASES THIS YEAR (DUE TO ANTI-INFLATION PROGRAM), AND, SECOND, THAT VIRTUALLY ALL OF HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF SUB-POVERTY WORKERS IN PRIVATE SECTOR ARE UNORGANIZED BLACKS WITH NO PRACTICAL MEANS AT THEIR DISPOSAL OF TAKING ADVANTAGE OF EXEMPTION. IN CIRCUMSTANCEW WE WOULD LIKE TO RESTATE POINT MADE IN JOHANNESBURGS 1278 THAT ONLY SPECIFIC AND MEASURABLE SACRIFICE SAG

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APPEARS TO BE MAKING IN SUPPORT OF ITS OWN PROGRAM IS AT EXPENSE

"NOT OF APARTHEID OR MILITARY PREPAREDNESS OR ANY OF ITS OTHER
EXPENSIVE AND UNECONOMIC BUT SACROSANCT PROGRAMS, BUT OF ITS OWN
EMPLOYEES INCLUDING ITS BLACK EMPLOYEES."

3. WHILE ANTI-INFLATION MANIFESTO EMPHASIZES URGENT NEED TO IMPROVE
PRODUCTIVITY (VIA CONTINUING WHITE IMMIGRATIO AS WELL AS BETTER
TRAINING AND UTILIZATION OF SOUTH AFRICANS) IT FAILS TO CALL
FOR ADDITIONAL TRAINING FPROGRAMS OR FOR ALLOCATION OF SIGNIFICANT
ADDITIONAL TRAINING RESOURCES (RELYING INSTEAD PRIMARILY ON SIMPLE
JAWBONING).

4. TRADE UNION COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA (TUCSA) WHICH MADE SOLE NON-
WHITE CONTRIBUTION TO CONTENT OF ANTI-INFLATION MANIFESTO MAKES
POINT THAT DOCUMENT IS SIGNIFICANT NOT BECAUSE IT PRESCRIBES
SOLUTIONS TO DIFFICULT PROBLEMS BUT BECAUSE IT REPRESENTS FIRST TIME
IN MANY YEARS SAG HAS PERMITTED WIDE RANGE OF OUTSIDERS TO PLAY
MEANINGFUL ROLE IN POLICY FORMULATION.
DEGRACE

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